

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 05551 150659Z

20

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 MC-02 ACDA-19 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 AF-10 /137 W

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R 141555Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8027

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 5551

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: FOREIGN OFFICE COMPLAINT ABOUT AVIATION WEEK MAGAZINE
ARTICLE ON SOVIET BASES

1. AT REGULAR THURSDAY PRESS CONFERENCE FSFA PRESS SPOKEMAN ZUPAN COMMENTED ON ALLEGED REPORTS IN US MAGAZINE AVIATION WEEK AND AUSTRIAN PAPER DER SOLDAT "THAT SOVIET BASES EXIST IN YUGOSLAVIA AND SOVIET UNITS ARE STATIONED HERE". ZUPAN IS QUOTED BY TANJUG AS SAYING: "SUCH CLAIMS OF EXISTENCE OF FOREIGN TROOPS AND BASES ON YUGOSLAV TERRITORY CAN ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS MILICIOUS INVENTION AND CRUDE EFFORTS SOW CONFUSION IN WORLD PUBLIC OPINION IN RELATION TO YUGOSLAVIA'S NONALIGNED AND INDEPENDENT POLICIES, POLICIES LONG-SINCE KNOWN AND RECOGNIZED THROUGHOUT WORLD. THESE AND SIMILAR INSINUATIONS HAVE APPEARED IN PAST AS WELL, AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF PRESSURE ON OUR COUNTRY, AND NOW SOMETHING SIMILAR IS OCCURRING JUST AS MOMENT WHEN YUGOSLAVIA CONSISTENTLY AND ACTIVELY URGES ATTAINMENT OF A JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION TO MIDDLE EAST CRISIS AND IS DEVELOPING ACTIVITY ALONG A WIDE FRONT FOR SOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF UNITED NATIONS, THE SECOND PHASE OF EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION CONFERENCE, AND ESPECIALLY ALONG THE LINE OF IMPLEMENTING DECISIONS OF FOURTH CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF NONALIGNED COUNTRIES IN ALGIERS."

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PAGE 02 BELGRA 05551 150659Z

2. COMMENT: AUSTRIAN MILATT WAS CALLED INTO DEFENSE LIAISON

OFFICE DECEMBER 13 AND TOLD THAT GOY DISAPPOINTED OVER SUCH
RUMORMONGERING ON PART OF FRIENDLY NEIGHBORING COUNTRY. SO FAR
NO APPROACH TO EMBASSY.

3. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER ANY MENTION HAS BEEN MADE IN WASHINGTON
BY YUGOSLAVS.
JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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